

FOREST CONTROL

by CONTINUOUS INVENTORY

"Today I have grown taller from walking
with the trees."

...Karle Wilson

Upper Darby, Pa. July 1968 No. 153

THE EDIT ROUTINE

Sad is the day you get your computer print-out sheets and find a crazy mixed up mess of extra tables that mean nothing, or some figures that are way-out. The uninitiated might blame the computer program, and in a way, this is right -- a computer program was forgotten. The left-out program was an edit routine.

Once the cards are punched, the first step in automatic data processing (ADP) has been accomplished. If you wish good results to come off the printer, now is the time to check this input data for obvious, and some not so obvious, errors that "snuck in while you weren't lookin'". Although visual checks of listings, or check sorts can be made, time and again computer edit routines have shown that as many errors were not found as were found by these methods. So better put in an edit (error-check) program.

Enclosed Research Note #4 of Michigan Technological University's Ford Forestry Center discusses this type of program. This note is part of a series concerning the "Standard Program" being developed at the University for processing continuous forest inventory (CFI) data. The edit idea applies to all other ADP Program Systems as well as those for CFI. Data-in must be good if print-out is to be good.

When it has been completed and fully tested, the "Standard Program" will be available. How it may then be obtained will be printed in this newsletter.

Have any CFI problems? We'll try to help.

Bill Barton, Forester



COPY

A
B2:
In81
153

CHARTS
FLOW PLANS
13.2 PAINT NUMBERED
TREES
In81
PERMANENT
SAMPLES

TIMBER
BOOKKEEPING
UNIT
RECORDS

THE DIAMETER
TAPE

TRIAL
BALANCE

PORT-A-
PUNCH

